

REMARKS

Claims 13-21 are allowed.

Claims 5 and 7 are rejected as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-5 and 32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Krivokapic et al. (US 6,512,273, hereinafter "Krivokapic") in view of Yu et al. (US 5,747,373, hereinafter "Yu").

Claims 1, 8, 11 and 32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Rendon et al. (US 6,908,822, hereinafter "Rendon") in view of Yu.

Claims 1-3, 6, 12 and 32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Yeap et al. (US 6,753,242, hereinafter "Yeap") in view of Yu.

Claims 1, 9, 12 and 32 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Lee et al. (US 6,908,822, hereinafter "Lee") in view of Yu.

Applicants respectfully traverse the §103(a) rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. § 103

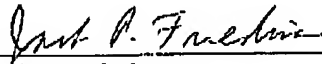
Applicants respectfully contend that claims 1 and 32 are not unpatentable over Krivokapic in view of Yu, Rendon in view of Yu, Ycap in view of Yu, or Lee in view of Yu because these references do not teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 1 and 32, because claims 1 and 32 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of dependent claim 5.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully maintain that claims 1 and 32 are not unpatentable over Krivokapic and Yu, Rendon in view of Yu, Ycap in view of Yu, or Lee in view of Yu, and that claims 1 and 32 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 2-4, 6-9, 11 and 12 depend from claim 1, Applicants contend that claims 2-4, 6-9, 11 and 12 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-21 and 32, as well as the entire application, meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. However, should the Examiner believe anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be advantageous to resolve the issues presented, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account 09-0457.

Respectfully submitted,


Jack P. Friedman
Reg. No. 44,688
for: Kristen L. Ashdown
Reg. No. 43,682

Date: 01/17/2006

Schmeiser, Olson & Watts
3 Lear Jet Lane, Suite 201
Latham, NY 12110
(518)220-1850